

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LISBON 00617 211844Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-08 INR-07 LAB-04
NSAE-00 SIL-01 /033 W
-----220409Z 000177 /73
R 211732Z JAN 77
FM AMEMBASSY LISBON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9909

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PASS TO EUR DAN GOOTT

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ELAB, US, PO
SUBJ: TRACTOR DONATION TO SOCIALIST COOPERATIVE

1. POSSIBLE WOODCOCK, IN CONJUNCTION WITH JOHN DEERE COMPANY, HAS OFFERED TO DONATE A TRACTOR TO A SOCIALIST AGRICULTURAL COOPERATIVE IN THE ALENTEJO. WOODCOCK HAS INFORMED AMBASSADOR BY TELEPHONE THAT TRACTOR IS NOW READY FOR SHIPMENT. WOODCOCK ALSO EXPRESSED INTEREST IN VISITING PORTUGAL, AND AMBASSADOR DISCUSSED WITH HIM THE POSSIBILITY OF COMING IN CONNECTION WITH TRACTOR PRESENTATION CEREMONIES. THE SOCIALISTS ARE ENTHUSIASTIC ABOUT THE POSSIBILITY OF A WOODCOCK VISIT. TIMING, HOWEVER, COULD BE A PROBLEM; SOARES HAS SEVERAL TRAVEL COMMITMENTS DURING COMING WEEKS. SOCIALISTS SAY BEST TIME FOR WOODCOCK VISIT WOULD BE EITHER THE FIRST WEEK IN FEBRUARY OR SOMETIME AFTER THE FIRST WEEK IN MARCH.

2. SENSITIVITIES INVOLVED: THE SOCIALISTS SUGGEST, AND WE AGREE, THAT TRACTOR PRESENTATION SHOULD NOT BE THE CENTER-PIECE OF A WOODCOCK VISIT. MORE USEFUL FOCAL POINT WOULD BE INTERCHANGE WITH SOCIALIST TRADE UNIONISTS, PARTICULARLY PS METAL WORKERS WHO ARE ENGAGED IN AN UPHILL BATTLE AGAINST FIRMLY-ENTRENCHED COMMUNISTS. RECENT HEAVY DONATIONS OF

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AGRICULTURAL EQUIPMENT BY THE USSR AND EASTERN EUROPEAN COMMUNIST LABOR GROUPS, ESTIMATED BY SOME TO RUN AS HIGH AS \$25 MILLION, WOULD INEVITABLY BE USED TO DRAW TO THE KIND OF INVIDIOUS COMPARISONS WHICH WOULD HELP NEITHER US NOR THE SOCIALISTS. THE SOCIALISTS BELIEVE IT WOULD BE BEST TO HANDLE THE TRACTOR PRESENTATION IN A LOW KEY WAY-- GETTING THE MESSAGE THROUGH TO THOSE WHO COUNT, WITH EMPHASIS

UPON THE UNION-TO-UNION, PEOPLE-TO-PEOPLE ASPECT. WE AGREE.

3. REQUEST GOOTT PASS THE FOREGOING TO UAW. SHIPPING
INSTRUCTIONS FOR TRACTOR AND DESCRIPTION OF RECIPIENT
COOPERATION WILL BE SUBJECT OF SEPTTEL.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 21-Jan-1977 12:00:00 am
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Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
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Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Subject: TRACTOR DONATION TO SOCIALIST COOPERATIVE
TAGS: ELAB, OTRA, US, PO, (WOODCOCK, LEONARD)
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